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Agenda item 20 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, China, Colombia, Georgia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan: draft resolution

Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/30 J of 25 April 1997,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1113 (1997) of 12 June 1997, 1128 (1997) of 12 September 1997 and 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 17 October 1997,[1]

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the inter-Tajik talks, conducted under United Nations auspices since 1994, with the signing in Moscow on 27 June 1997 by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,[2] and welcoming also the progress made by the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement and the effective maintenance of the ceasefire between them since December 1996,

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[1] A/52/500.

[2] A/52/219-S/1997/510, annex I.

Commending the efforts of the United Nations, in particular those of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Tajikistan and of the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement,

Noting the requests of the parties, contained in the General Agreement and in the letter dated 27 June 1997 from the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition addressed to the Secretary-General,[3] for the further assistance of the United Nations in implementing the General Agreement, and recognizing that the implementation of the Agreement will require the consistent good faith and constant effort of the parties, as well as the sustained and vigorous support of the United Nations and the international community,

Noting also that, despite the successful conclusion of the inter-Tajik talks and the efforts of the Government of Tajikistan to allocate limited resources to returning refugees and displaced persons, the economic situation in Tajikistan remains bleak and essential social services are largely dysfunctional, making a large percentage of the population extremely vulnerable,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and achieving national reconciliation in Tajikistan and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and to take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist Tajikistan in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

Expressing concern that the security situation in parts of Tajikistan remains volatile,

Deeply concerned about the danger posed by landmines in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the completion of the voluntary repatriation of Tajik refugees from northern Afghanistan, and stressing the importance of ensuring the voluntary return, in safety and dignity, of all refugees and internally displaced persons to their places of permanent residence,

Expressing its appreciation to the States, United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Committee of the Red Cross, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General,[1] and endorses the observations and recommendations set out therein;

2. Welcomes the efforts aimed at achieving peace and national reconciliation in Tajikistan, and encourages the parties to implement fully the

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[3] S/1997/508, annex.

General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan;[2]

3. Welcomes with appreciation the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute humanitarian problems of Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the implementation of the General Agreement and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country;

4. Notes that the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan adopted by the Security Council in its resolution 1138 (1997) authorizes the Mission to coordinate United Nations assistance to Tajikistan during the transition period, and welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to appoint the United Nations Resident Coordinator as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General;[4]

5. Welcomes the convening by the Secretary-General at Vienna on 24 and 25 November 1997 of a donor conference to obtain international support dedicated to the implementation of the General Agreement, in particular, in the areas of political reconciliation and democratization, the demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants and the reform of power structures, and the repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, and encourages Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to ensure that this opportunity is not lost to contribute to the success of the peace process;

6. Encourages Member States and others concerned to respond both promptly and generously to the current consolidated inter-agency donor alert on the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

7. Welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to prepare a full-scale consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for a period of 12 months beginning in January 1998;

8. Calls upon the parties to ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and other international humanitarian personnel;

9. Encourages the parties to cooperate in order to reduce the threat from the indiscriminate use of landmines to the civil population of Tajikistan and to the provision of humanitarian assistance;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

11. Decides to consider at its fifty-third session the question of the situation of Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

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[4] See S/1997/686, para. 32.